

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 227543 TOSEC 270123

62

ORIGIN PRS-01

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 CCO-00 NSCE-00 NSC-05 SS-15 /022 R

DRAFTED BY S/PRS:CWAYLAND:BB

APPROVED BY S/PRS - FREDERICK Z. BROWN

S/S-O:DLMACK

----- 113896

P 150104Z SEP 76 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 227543 TOSEC 270123

FOR EAGLEBURGER FROM S/PRS - BROWN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (KISSINGER, HENRY A.)

SUBJECT: U.S. POLICY ON HIJACKING

FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REUTERS WIRE REPORT FROM WASHINGTON
BY ROBERT TRAUTMAN:

"THE STATE DEPARTMENT SAID TODAY ITS DECISION TO LET
AMBASSADOR KENNETH RUSH TALK TO HIJACKERS OF A U.S. JET-
LINER IN PARIS ON SUNDAY DID NOT MARK ANY CHANGE IN ITS
POLICY OF NOT NEGOTIATING WITH AIR PIRATES.

"SPOKESMAN FREDERICK BROWN SAID U.S. POLICY DID NOT RULE
OUT DISCUSSIONS IF THEY WERE CONFINED TO THE WELL-BEING
OF THE HOSTAGES AND THEIR UNCONDITIONAL RELEASE.

"THE 53 HOSTAGES WERE EVENTUALLY RELEASED UNHARMED AND
THE HIJACKERS HAVE SINCE BEEN RETURNED TO NEW YORK AND
CHARGED.

"MR. BROWN TOLD REPORTERS A REQUEST TO NEWSPAPERS BY THE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (FBI) TO PUBLISH GRIEVANCES
UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 227543 TOSEC 270123

BY THE CROATIAN HIJACKERS WAS NOT MADE WITH STATE DEPART-

MENT APPROVAL.

"BUT HE REFUSED TO SAY WHETHER THE DEPARTMENT DISAPPROVED OF THE MOVE AS A CAPITULATION TO DEMANDS BY THE HIJACKERS, WHO SEIZED THE TRANS WORLD AIRLINES (TWA) JET NEAR NEW YORK ON SATURDAY.

"THE HIJACKERS DEMANDED THAT FOUR U.S. NEWSPAPERS PUBLISH THEIR GRIEVANCES AGAINST THE YUGOSLAV GOVERNMENT. LATER, IN PARIS, THEY DEMANDED TO SPEAK PERSONALLY TO PRESIDENT FORD, SECRETARY OF STATE HENRY KISSINGER OR MR. RUSH.

"THE NEWSPAPERS PUBLISHED THE STATEMENTS, BUT MR. BROWN SAID HE SAW NO DEVIATION FROM U.S. POLICY IN THIS SINCE IT FOLLOWED A DEMAND BY THE CROATIANS TO TWA TO PASS THE GRIEVANCES TO THE PAPERS.

"SINCE THE NEWSPAPERS' ACTION VIOLATED NO LAW, THERE WAS NO NEED FOR THE STATE DEPARTMENT TO BECOME INVOLVED, HE ADDED.

"MR. BROWN DECLINED TO SAY WHAT THE DEPARTMENT FELT ABOUT THE FBI REQUEST TO THE NEWSPAPERS TO PUBLISH THE GRIEVANCES AND WHETHER HE THOUGHT IT IN EFFECT ACCEDED TO DEMANDS BY THE HIJACKERS.

"THE FBI, ASKED BY REPORTERS WHETHER IT FELT IT HAD GIVEN IN TO THE HIJACKERS, ISSUED A BRIEF STATEMENT SAYING:

'THE DECISION TO RELEASE THIS MATERIAL WAS MADE SOLELY BY THE FBI IN VIEW OF THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH EXISTED AT THE TIME AND DOES NOT REPRESENT ANY CHANGE IN THE U.S. GOVERNMENT POLICY REGARDING ACCEDING TO DEMANDS OF TERRORISTS.'

"A SPOKESMAN WOULD ANSWER NO OTHER QUESTIONS.

"DISCUSSING THE DEMAND BY THE HIJACKERS TO SPEAK TO A U.S. OFFICIAL, MR. BROWN SAID MR. RUSH CONTACTED THE DEPARTMENT FOR APPROVAL BEFORE AGREEING TO A MEETING.

UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 03 STATE 227543 TOSEC 270123

"THE APPROVAL, THE SPOKESMAN SAID, WAS GIVEN AS PART OF THE U.S. POLICY TO TALK TO HIJACKERS TO DETERMINE THE BEST TACTICAL WAY TO SECURE THE RELEASE OF HOSTAGES.

"FOLLOWING THE PASSENGERS' RELEASE, THE HIJACKERS WERE BROUGHT TO NEW YORK AND CHARGED WITH AERIAL PIRACY.

"THEY WERE ALSO CHARGED WITH MURDER AS A RESULT OF THE DEATH

OF A POLICEMAN WHEN A BOMB THEY HAD PLANTED EXPLODED AND
KILLED A NEW YORK POLICEMAN.
ROBINSON

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TOSEC, PRESS COMMENTS, POLICIES, AIRCRAFT HIJACKING
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976STATE227543
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: CWAYLAND:BB
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760347-0176
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760957/aaaabwwa.tel
Line Count: 118
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN PRS
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: vandyklc
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 05 FEB 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <05 FEB 2004 by MaustMC>; APPROVED <31 AUG 2004 by vandyklc>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: U.S. POLICY ON HIJACKING FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF REUTERS WIRE REPORT FROM WASHINGTON BY ROBERT TRAUTMAN
TAGS: SOPN, OVIP, US, (KISSINGER, HENRY A), (TRAUTMAN, ROBERT)
To: SECRETARY
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006